

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of receiving load information of a cell in a wireless communication system, comprising:

~~determining a cell loading state based on a comparison of cell loading to one or more thresholds associated with different periodicities, the thresholds being adaptive depending on cell service mix, and~~

receiving, by a network element, the cell load information at a first non-zero reporting periodicity, if the cell is determined to be in a low cell loading state, and

receiving, by the network element, the cell load information at a second reporting periodicity more frequent than the first non-zero reporting periodicity, if the cell is determined to be in a high cell loading state.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell load information is received on one of a dedicated channel and a shared channel.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication system is a universal mobile telecommunications system (UMTS).

4. (Currently Amended) A method of providing cell load information in a wireless communication system comprising:

determining, at a network element, a cell loading state based on a comparison of cell loading to one or more thresholds associated with different periodicities, the thresholds being adaptive depending on cell service mix, and

reporting, by the network element, the cell load information at a first non-zero reporting periodicity, if the cell is determined to be in a low cell loading state, and

reporting, by the network element, the cell load information at a second reporting periodicity more frequent than the first non-zero reporting periodicity, if the cell is determined to be in a high cell loading state.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the cell load information is provided on one of a dedicated channel and a shared channel.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the wireless communication system is a universal mobile telecommunications system (UMTS).

7-20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more thresholds are adaptive depending on cell loading and the cell service mix.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more thresholds include an uplink threshold for comparison against cell load measurements measured by a radio network controller, and a downlink threshold for comparison against downlink cell load measurements measured by the cell.

23-25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the one or more thresholds are adaptive depending on cell loading and the cell service mix.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the one or more thresholds include an uplink threshold for comparison against cell load measurements measured by a radio network controller, and a downlink threshold for comparison against downlink cell load measurements measured by the cell.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) A method of providing cell load information in a wireless communication system comprising:

determining, at a network element, a cell loading state based on a comparison of cell loading to one or more thresholds associated with different periodicities, the thresholds being adaptive depending on cell loading, and

reporting, by the network element, the cell load information at a first non-zero reporting periodicity, if the cell is determined to be in a low cell loading state, and

reporting, by the network element, the cell load information at a second reporting periodicity more frequent than the first non-zero reporting periodicity, if the cell is determined to be in a high cell loading state.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A method of reporting cell load information in a wireless communication system comprising:

comparing, at a network element, a given cell loading measurement against one of two thresholds associated with different periodicities, the compared threshold being an uplink loading threshold representing a difference between an uplink call admission control (CAC) threshold and a consumption margin set for the uplink, or a downlink loading threshold representing a difference between a downlink CAC threshold and a consumption margin set for the downlink, wherein the thresholds are adaptive depending on cell service mix, and

reporting, by the network element, cell load measurement information at one of two different non-zero periodic intervals based on the comparison,

wherein reporting one of the periodic interval is more frequent than the other periodic interval.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein reporting includes reporting the cell load measurement information at a first periodic interval, if the cell load is below the uplink loading threshold or downlink loading threshold, else

reporting the cell load measurement information at a second periodic interval shorter than the first, as the cell load exceeds the uplink loading threshold or downlink loading threshold.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the consumption margins for the uplink and downlink are based on maximum consumption values for corresponding supported services in the uplink and downlink.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the given cell load measurement for comparison against the uplink threshold is measured by a radio network controller, and the given cell load measurement for the comparison against the downlink threshold is measured by the cell itself.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the compared threshold is adaptive depending on cell loading and the cell service mix.

36. (Currently Amended) A method of reporting cell load information in a wireless communication system comprising:

comparing, at a network element, a given cell loading measurement against one of two thresholds associated with different periodicities, the compared threshold being an uplink loading threshold representing a difference between an uplink call admission control (CAC) threshold and a consumption margin set for the uplink, or a downlink loading threshold representing a difference between a downlink CAC threshold and a consumption margin set for the downlink, wherein the thresholds are adaptive depending on cell loading, and

reporting, by the network element, cell load measurement information at one of two different non-zero periodic intervals based on the comparison, wherein

reporting one of the periodic interval is more frequent than the other periodic interval.